

Name _____ Date _____ Sequence _____

The Lottery by Shirley Jackson

Targets: I can answer questions in complete and thoughtful sentences.
I can cite evidence from text to support my answers/claims.

DIRECTIONS: Answer questions on a separate piece of paper (handwritten or typed).

Clarifying Questions:

1. Where does the story take place? (time period and location) Provide textual support in quotes.
2. Who assembles first?
3. What does boisterous mean in the sentence, “...they tended to gather together quietly for a while before they broke into boisterous play.”
4. What does Bobby Martin do right away? Who follows his example?
5. What do the men discuss?
6. Who is in charge of conducting the lottery?
7. Who comes late to the lottery ritual?
8. Who is the oldest man in town?
9. Why do the villagers never replace the lottery box?
10. What are some of the rituals that took place during the lottery that are no longer practiced?
11. What does Old Man Warner say to Mrs. Adams when she says, “Some places have already quite lotteries.”
12. Who is first picked for the lottery?
13. What does Mrs. Delacroix say to Tessie after Bill Hutchinson was picked?
14. Who is picked during the second drawing? What happens?
15. What are the opinions of at least two townspeople regarding the lottery?

Author’s Intent or Style Questions: (Each answer should be 5-10 sentences in length).

1. How does the writer use **imagery** to set the **mood** in the beginning of the story? When does this mood change? Provide quotes and explain.
2. How does the writer use **foreshadowing**?
3. Discuss how the writer uses **symbolism**. Consider the box, characters’ names (Mr. Graves, Mr. Summers).

4. How does the writer develop **irony** in this story? Consider the title of the story and the reader's expectations about the story.
5. What **message** does the author want to get across. Discuss two theme ideas. (see the Take a Stand for ideas).

Speculative Questions: (Each answer should be 5-10 sentences in length).

1. What if the story was set in a different location with characters who are presented in a more sophisticated way. Would the story have the same effect?
2. What if the boys in the beginning of the story refused to follow Bobby Martin's example?
3. How might the story be different if Old Man Warner took on a different perspective of the lottery?
4. How might the story unfold if Mrs. Delacroix agreed with Tessie when Tessie shouts to Mr. Summers, "You didn't give him time enough to take any paper he wanted. I saw you. It wasn't fair!"

Rhetorical Questions:

1. Given the democracy we live in, don't we deserve equality?
2. What has tradition ever done to help us?
3. Many have died during the running of the bulls. How many more people must die before we put an end to this tradition?

Develop at least 3 rhetorical questions that have a connection with the themes and ideas in The Lottery.